



News, Events and Information

New Recycling and Yard Waste Program Takes Shape

A survey issued to Columbus residents provided valuable insight to an Advisory Team brought together by Mayor Michael B. Coleman in order to study and plan for a curbside recycling and yard waste program to begin in 2012. Recommendations from the Team coincide with the Mayor's proposal to bring alternating, every other week collection of recyclables and yard waste to all single family (units of four or less) residents at no charge to residents. Further recommendations include the following:

- Recycling to be collected every-other week in the same location as trash equating to either curbside or alley service depending on neighborhood features. (The majority of residents, 63%, prefer collection of recyclables every-other week or less.
- New 65 gallon containers (featuring wheels and a lid) will be distributed to all residents in order to dispose of a mix of recyclables including paper, plastics and metals. (The majority of residents, over 70%, prefer a cart style recycling container, 35 gallons or larger).
- Yard waste collection to occur every-other week and remain in its current location, on the curbside. Residents will be expected to bundle sticks, use yard waste bags or another rigid container for disposal, as usual. The majority of residents, 53%, prefer yard waste collection every-other week or less.)
- No changes will be made to existing trash collection or fee structure.

2011 and the remainder of 2010 will be used to prepare for the program including opportunities for further public input, a competitive bid process to determine the hauler and program cost, contract negotiations, allow time for recycling containers and trucks to be manufactured and delivered and an extensive education campaign. [Click here](#) to see more proposed program information as presented to City Council.

Neighborhood Pride goes Green

As part of [Neighborhood Pride](#), a group of 17 COWIC interns have spent the summer learning about sustainability and canvassing Columbus to connect residents with environmentally friendly and money saving devices for their home. Interns have provided compact fluorescent light bulbs, rain barrels, provided water saving low-flow fixtures and provided information on how to sign up for energy efficiency services, where to dispose of household hazardous waste and more. Each home visited by the students also has been signed up to become a [GreenSpot](#) location.

Accolades

- Columbus is featured as a 2010 '[Smarter City](#)' for energy use by the Natural Resources Defense Council!
- Affectionately known as Bikin' Mike, Mayor Michael B. Coleman once again led the annual BikeColumbus event on July 16th which attracted over 500 people- congratulations to event coordinators, Consider Biking and Columbus Public Health. The summer fun is not over yet, visit the new www.GetActiveColumbus.com website for more activity ideas, like biking, that are healthy for you and the environment!

Green Events & Activities

Get involved with the sustainability in the City of Columbus and Central Ohio by visiting the MORPC Green Community Calendar [online](#).

- **[Growing to Green Awards](#)**: August 18, 6:00-9:00 PM at Franklin Park Conservatory. The purpose of these awards is to honor community gardeners for improving neighborhoods across the region. RSVP required (jtackett@fpconservatory.org).
- **[Green Home Fair](#) in conjunction with [Urban Scrawl](#)**: August 28, 12noon-8:00 P.M at Dodge Park. Urban Scrawl is a one-day festival that features the live creation of murals by local artists. Guests will enjoy live music, arts and crafts vendors, food vendors, a children's craft and game area, break dancing, skateboarding competition and, new this year, a Green Home Fair featuring free educational presentations and vendors showcasing green products.
 - 12:40pm: DIY Green for the home/Low-cost greening
 - 1:40pm: Lead workshop
 - 2:40pm: Community Gardens
 - 3:40pm: Green architecture

Questions, comments, concerns? Interact with us online by becoming a Fan of Columbus GreenSpot on [Facebook](#)!

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